

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 25, 27, 28, 42-49; and
add new claims 50-68.

Claims 1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from a network node to other nodes;

detecting a network parameter change in a network node of said network; and

distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes;-

wherein the respective updating information sent to the offspring nodes differs for each offspring node based on the spanning tree structure.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information is used in a network operation and management procedure in a radio access network.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein said network operation and management procedure is ~~(MDC)~~ macro diversity combining point selection procedure.

28. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information relates to a ~~QoS-related~~ quality of service related parameter.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 28, wherein said network parameter information comprises at least one of a link state, a link utilization, a node utilization, and a macro diversity combining load.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising deriving said topology information from at least one routing table.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 30, wherein one routing table is provided for each network node.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein said one routing table provides a branch information for each offspring node of said network node.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said branch information indicates branches of the concerned offspring node.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising deriving said topology information from a link state database of a routing protocol of said transmission network.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising obtaining said topology information by running a flooding scheme and a shortest-path-first algorithm.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, further comprising deciding on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information comprises said updating information sent to each offspring node.

38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, wherein said updating information comprises a branch information, a parameter update information

and a node identification of the network node at which said network parameter change has occurred.

39. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, further comprising distributing a received updating information from an offspring node of said network node to an offspring node of said offspring node based on said branch information.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, further comprising updating a parameter information stored at said offspring node using said updating information.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said transmission network is a radio access network based on internet protocol technology.

42. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~An apparatus, comprising:
~~for distributing~~a distributor configured to distribute a network parameter information to ~~other network nodes of a transmission network, said network node being:~~
a detector configured to detect a change in a network parameter related to said ~~apparatus network node, and;~~
wherein the ~~to distributor~~distributor ~~distributes~~ said network parameter information indicating said network parameter change towards said ~~other network nodes~~ in response

to said detection and in accordance with a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from said ~~network node~~ apparatus to said ~~other network~~ nodes;

~~wherein said network node~~ a generator is configured to generate for each of its a plurality of offspring nodes a respective updating information; and

a transmitter to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes;

wherein the respective updating information sent to the offspring nodes differs for each offspring node based on the spanning tree structure.

43. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~ An apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said spanning tree is derived from a topology information of said transmission network.

44. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~ An apparatus according to claim 43, wherein said ~~network apparatus is a network node~~ is configured to decide on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

45. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~ An apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said ~~network node~~ apparatus is a base station ~~device~~ of a radio access network.

46. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~An apparatus, comprising:
~~for distributing~~a distributor configured to distribute a network parameter
information to ~~other network nodes of a radio access network, said network node being:~~
a receiver configured to receive a network parameter information from an upper
node, to update a stored parameter information according to said received network
parameter information, and wherein the distributor to distribute distributes said network
parameter information to its offspring network nodes based on a branch information
included in said network parameter information, said branch information being derived
from a spanning tree routing topology; ~~wherein said network node is:~~ and
an updater configured to update said branch information in said network parameter
information before distributing said network parameter information to said other nodes;,,
wherein the updated information is sent to the other nodes and said updated
information differs for each of the other nodes based on the spanning tree topology.

47. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~An apparatus according to claim 46,
wherein said other nodes are offspring nodes of said network node.

48. (Currently Amended) ~~A network node~~An apparatus according to claim 46,
wherein said network node is a base station device of a radio access network.

49. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

determining means for determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from a network node to other nodes;

detecting means for detecting a network parameter change in a network node of said network; and

distributing means for distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes;

wherein the respective updating information sent to the offspring nodes differs for each offspring node based on the spanning tree structure.

50. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform:

determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from a network node to other nodes;

detecting a network parameter change in a network node of said network; and

distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes.

wherein the respective updating information sent to the offspring nodes differs for each offspring node based on the spanning tree structure.

51. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

distributing means for distributing a network parameter information to network nodes of a transmission network;

detecting means for detecting a change in a network parameter related to said apparatus;

wherein the distributing means distributes said network parameter information indicating said network parameter change towards said network nodes in response to said detection and in accordance with a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from said apparatus to said network nodes,

generating means for generating for each of a plurality of offspring nodes a respective updating information; and

transmitting means for transmitting said respective updating information to all offspring nodes,

wherein the respective updating information sent to the offspring nodes differs for each offspring node based on the spanning tree structure.

52. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

distributing means for distributing a network parameter information to network nodes of a radio access network;

receiving means for receiving a network parameter information from an upper node, to update a stored parameter information according to said received network parameter information, and wherein the distributing means distributes said network parameter information to its offspring network nodes based on a branch information included in said network parameter information, said branch information being derived from a spanning tree routing topology; and

updating means for updating said branch information in said network parameter information before distributing said network parameter information to said offspring nodes,

wherein the updated network parameter information sent to the offspring nodes differs for each offspring node based on the spanning tree structure.

53. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information is used in a network operation and management procedure in a radio access network.

54. (New) The apparatus according to claim 53, wherein said network operation and management procedure is macro diversity combining point selection procedure.

55. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information relates to a quality of service related parameter.

56. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information comprises at least one of a link state, a link utilization, a node utilization, and a macro diversity combining load.

57. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, further comprising deriving said topology information from at least one routing table.

58. (New) The apparatus according to claim 57, wherein one routing table is provided for each network node.

59. (New) The apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said one routing table provides a branch information for each offspring node of said network node.

60. (New) The apparatus according to claim 59, wherein said branch information indicates branches of the concerned offspring node.

61. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, further comprising deriving said topology information from a link state database of a routing protocol of said transmission network.

62. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, further comprising obtaining said topology information by running a flooding scheme and a shortest-path-first algorithm.

63. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, further comprising deciding on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

64. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said network parameter information comprises said updating information sent to each offspring node.

65. (New) The apparatus according to claim 64, wherein said updating information comprises a branch information, a parameter update information and a node identification of the network node at which said network parameter change has occurred.

66. (New) The apparatus according to claim 64, further comprising distributing a received updating information from an offspring node of said network node to an offspring node of said offspring node based on said branch information.

67. (New) The apparatus according to claim 64, further comprising updating a parameter information stored at said offspring node using said updating information.

68. (New) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said transmission network is a radio access network based on internet protocol technology.